



Henri Hiroyuki Takahashi
Celebration of Life Memorial Service



June 30, 1914 – April 16, 2002

Monday, April 22, 2002 at 6 p.m.

**Japanese Community and Cultural Center
of No. California**

The Henri and Tomoye Takahashi Community Hall

1840 Sutter Street
San Francisco, California 94115

Chairperson

Allen Okamoto

Eulogy

Philip Kan Gotanda

Remembrances

Hats Aizawa, Family

Dr. John Umekubo, Family Friend

Rob Ramos and Nina Otsuka, Co-Workers

Tony Cohan, Son-In Law

Representing the Family

Kunihiko Takeshita, in Japanese

Masako Takahashi Cohan, in English

Flower Offerings

Reception Following at the Issei Memorial Hall on the Lower Level

The Story of Henri Hiroyuki Takahashi



Henri Hiroyuki Takahashi, one of the founders and owners of the locally-based Takahashi Trading Corporation, died April 16 at his home in San Francisco at the age of 87 of a

heart ailment. In addition to being a successful businessman and entrepreneur, Mr. Takahashi was active with the local Japanese American Community through his philanthropic endeavors.



Mr. Takahashi was born in Tokyo in 1914 and moved to the Hawaii with his family at age 3 where his father was minister of the local

Congregational Church. He moved to Oakland and then later to Riverside, California when his father was again transferred. Upon his high school graduation in 1931, his family moved back to Japan while Mr. Takahashi chose to remain in the States and enter Pomona College.

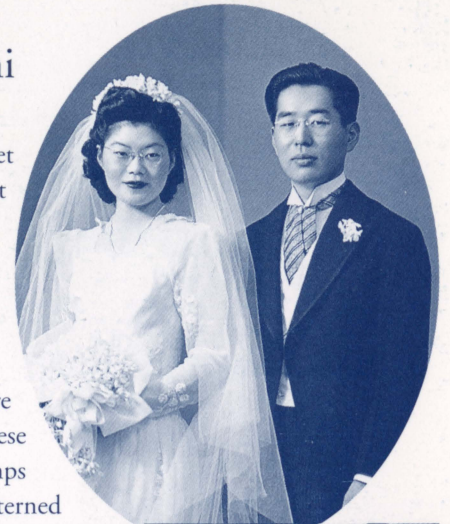


Mr. Takahashi worked his way through college with a variety of jobs, supplementing his income with his poker playing skills. He studied sociology and art along with

playing shortstop on the Pomona College baseball team. After graduating in 1936, he moved to San Francisco where he found a job as an editor for a Japanese American newspaper.



In 1938 Mr. Takahashi met Tomoye Nozawa, the eldest daughter of a successful Japan Town businessman. Soon after they were married, the war with Japan broke out and Mr. Takahashi and his wife were moved to one of the Japanese American Internment Camps in Topaz, Utah. While interned there Mr. Takahashi helped alleviate the sense of shared dislocation by becoming editor of the Camp newspaper, the Topaz Times.



After being released and allowed to return to the west coast in 1945, Mr. Takahashi and his wife started a small store in San Francisco's Japan Town, at first helping local residents send care packages back to Japan and later importing goods for distribution and sale. The business grew with Mr. Takahashi designing wares such as the Genji Screen, Kabuki Lamp and Moku Moku Salad Bowl, which became popular items of the day. At its peak, in addition to their home offices on Rhode Island Street, the Takahashi Trading Corporation had stores in San Francisco, Sausalito, New York City and Tokyo.



In later years, Mr. Takahashi along with his wife Tomoye and sister-in-law Martha Suzuki started the Henri & Tomoye Takahashi Charitable Foundation, funded a Chair at Stanford University and donated generously to support a variety of local service, cultural and educational institutions.

Mr. Takahashi is survived by his wife, Tomoye, his children Masako Cohan and Norman Takahashi, his sister-in-law Martha Suzuki, his sisters Helen Akaki and Julia Takahashi, Son in law Tony Cohan, in addition to several nieces and nephews.

Philip Kan Gotanda



Receiving Table

Aki King
Dennis Tsuchiya
Jean Tsuchiya

Koden Table

Amy Aizawa
Marge Fletcher
Yo Hironaka
Patricia Okamoto
Keith Tsuchiya

Ushers

Mike Begunoff
Eduardo Fernandez
Richard Matsumoto
Rick Medeiros
Dave Sato
Mike Zermeno

*The Takahashi Family are
very grateful for all your kind
remembrances and outpouring
of support.*